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New Mexico Labor Market Review

TONEY ANAYA, GOVERNOR
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT
Imogene Lindsay, Secretary
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Prepared by
Economic Research and Analysis
P.O. Box 1928
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

SEE PAGE 6 FOR
MINING EMPLOYMENT ANALYSIS

HIGHLIGHTS

Unemployment in New Mexico increased rather sharply in April according to labor force estimates produced using official U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) methodology. Estimates in recent months have indicated a slowdown in the recovery underway since early 1983; however, April's jump in unemployment came as a surprise because Unemployment Insurance claims and other ESD administrative data gave no indication of such a large increase in joblessness. The number of jobless in the state rose by 2,600 to total 52,600, the highest unemployment level in fifteen months. New Mexico's unemployment rate was estimated at 8.2 percent in April, up from 7.8 percent in March.

An important part of the DOL unemployment estimating methodology is the Current Population Survey, a nationwide sample survey which covers approximately 900 households in New Mexico. As with any estimates based on a sample survey, sampling error can occasionally produce unusual changes, and this may be what caused the large increase in the April unemployment estimates for New Mexico. We will be closely watching the labor force estimates over the next few months to see if this was just an atypical occurrence or a real change in trend.

The nonagricultural industry job estimates for New Mexico, on page 2 of this Review, generally displayed normal changes for April, with the exceptions being in the mining and manufacturing industries. The largest increases were in construction and retail trade, where sizeable job additions are normal for this time of year. Metal mining, with a 200 job gain in April, recorded the result of Kennecott Corp.'s recall of copper workers in Grant County laid off in February. Offsetting this increase, however, was the layoff of approximately 160 potash miners in Eddy and Lea Counties. Vertac Corp., the new owner of Kerr-McGee's potash mine and refinery near Carlsbad, hired only a portion of Kerr-McGee's workforce at the time of sale. Manufacturing continued to show the effects of the slowdown in the semiconductor industry with a 100 job loss in the electronic equipment subsector in April. Since the third quarter of 1984 employment in electronic equipment has posted small employment losses after experiencing three years of almost uninterrupted growth.

APRIL SUMMARY

	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Apr. 1985	Mar. 1985	Apr. 1984	Mar. 1985	Apr. 1984
Civilian Labor Force	641,700	637,300	621,100	+4,400	+20,600
Employment	589,100	587,300	574,300	+1,800	+14,800
Unemployment	52,600	50,000	46,800	+2,600	+5,800
Rate	8.2%	7.8%	7.5%		

NEW MEXICO

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)

(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

	Prelim APR 1985	Revised MAR 1985	Revised APR 1984	Change From MAR 1985	Change From APR 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	513,900	510,000	497,900	+3,900	+16,000
MINING	20,400	20,200	21,200	+ 200	- 800
Metal Mining	3,500	3,300	4,000	+ 200	- 500
Bituminous Coal, Quarrying and Nonmetallic Mining	4,100	4,200	4,200	- 100	- 100
Oil and Gas Extraction	12,800	12,700	13,000	+ 100	- 200
CONSTRUCTION	37,000	35,900	35,400	+1,100	+ 1,600
MANUFACTURING	36,400	36,700	36,200	- 300	+ 200
Durable Goods	23,800	24,000	23,300	- 200	+ 500
Lumber and Wood Products	2,400	2,400	2,500	0	- 100
Elec. and Electronic Equipment	6,500	6,600	6,300	- 100	+ 200
Transportation Equipment	3,800	3,800	3,400	0	+ 400
Other Durable Goods	11,100	11,200	11,100	- 100	0
Nondurable Goods	12,600	12,700	12,900	- 100	- 300
Food and Kindred Products	4,000	4,000	3,800	0	+ 200
Textiles and Apparel	2,400	2,400	2,800	0	- 400
Other Nondurable Goods	6,200	6,300	6,300	- 100	- 100
TRANSPORTATION and PUBLIC UTILITIES	30,200	30,200	30,100	0	+ 100
Railroad Transportation	2,200	2,200	2,400	0	- 200
Trucking and Warehousing	6,000	6,000	5,900	0	+ 100
Other Transportation	4,500	4,500	4,300	0	+ 200
Communication	7,700	7,700	7,700	0	0
Elec., Gas and Sanitary Services	9,800	9,800	9,800	0	0
WHOLESALE and RETAIL TRADE	119,200	117,400	114,300	+1,800	+ 4,900
Wholesale Trade	22,100	22,000	22,300	+ 100	- 200
Durable Goods	13,000	13,000	13,200	0	- 200
Nondurable Goods	9,100	9,000	9,100	+ 100	0
Retail Trade	97,100	95,400	92,000	+1,700	+ 5,100
General Merchandise Stores	9,400	9,300	9,800	+ 100	- 400
Food Stores	14,300	14,000	13,500	+ 300	+ 800
Auto Dlrs and Service Stations	12,600	12,600	12,500	0	+ 100
Eating and Drinking Places	35,600	34,600	32,600	+1,000	+ 3,000
Other Retail Trade	25,200	24,900	23,600	+ 300	+ 1,600
FINANCE, INSURANCE and REAL ESTATE	25,400	25,300	24,300	+ 100	+ 1,100
Banking	8,400	8,300	8,300	+ 100	+ 100
Ins. Carriers, Agents and Brokers	5,800	5,800	5,700	0	+ 100
Other Finance, Ins. and Real Estate	11,200	11,200	10,300	0	+ 900
SERVICES	110,400	109,900	104,800	+ 500	+ 5,600
Hotels and Other Lodging Places	10,500	10,300	10,500	+ 200	0
Personal Services	5,800	5,800	5,800	0	0
Business Services	25,300	25,000	23,700	+ 300	+ 1,600
Health Services	26,400	26,300	25,700	+ 100	+ 700
Social Services	7,100	7,200	7,000	- 100	+ 100
Membership Organizations	6,700	6,600	5,200	+ 100	+ 1,500
Other Services	28,600	28,700	26,900	- 100	+ 1,700
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	134,900	134,400	131,600	+ 500	+ 3,300
Federal Government	29,400	29,300	29,300	+ 100	+ 100
Total State & Local	105,500	105,100	102,300	+ 400	+ 3,200
State 2/	48,000	47,700	45,900	+ 300	+ 2,100
Local	57,500	57,400	56,400	+ 100	+ 1,100

1/ Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.

2/ Includes other state employees working in New Mexico.

ALBUQUERQUE AREA (BERNALILLO COUNTY)

HIGHLIGHTS

According to preliminary labor force estimates, the Albuquerque area unemployment rate increased from 5.8 percent to 6.1 percent in April, and the number of unemployed grew by 1,000 to total 14,900.

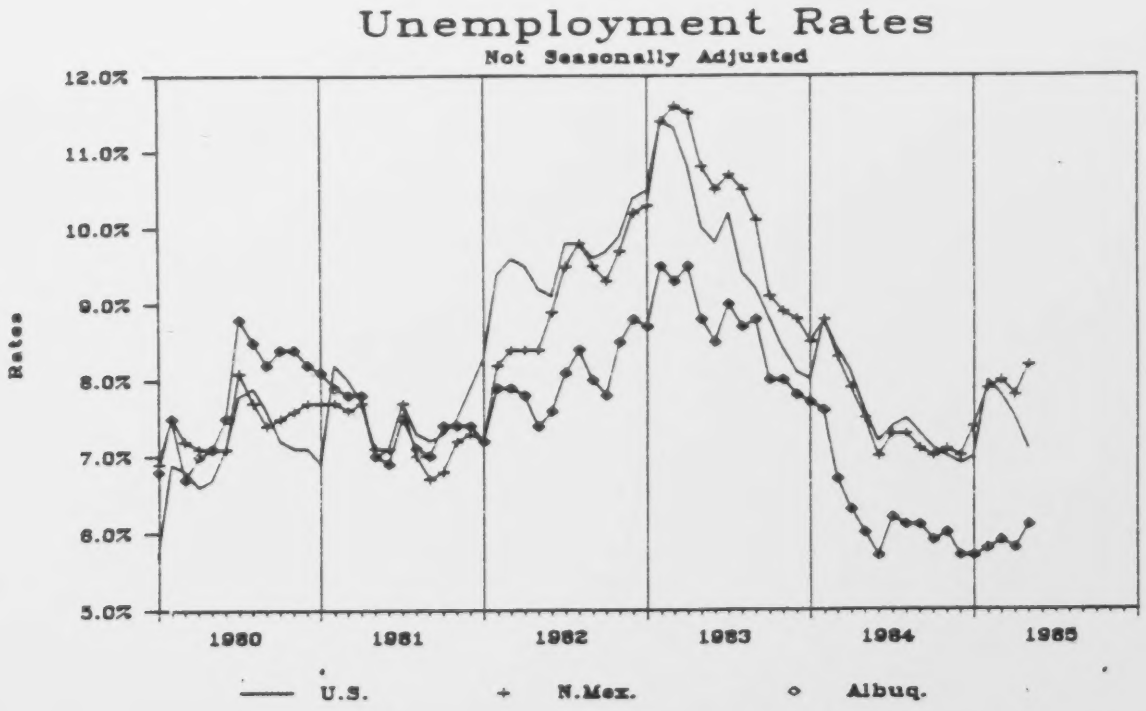
As was the case with the Statewide unemployment estimates for April, this recent jump in unemployment was rather surprising because it was not supported by Unemployment Insurance claims or other ESD administrative data. (See Statewide analysis on page 1 for a discussion of possible causes).

Total nonagricultural wage and salary employment in Albuquerque was 215,700 in April, an increase of 2,000 jobs from March. The construction industry added 500 jobs over the month, mainly due to large gains in the building and the special trades subsectors. The increase in trade was largely centered in the eating & drinking places subsector (+500). Gains in amusements & recreation, due to the spring horse racing season, and business services accounted for the majority of the 500 job increase in services.

The only major industry posting a decline over the month was manufacturing, where the majority of the loss was in the electronic equipment subsector. The recent slowdown in electronic equipment is in striking contrast to the rapid, almost continuous growth shown by the industry from late 1981 through the third quarter of last year. Over that period almost 2,200 jobs were added to the Albuquerque economy as new firms such as Sperry and Signetics opened large manufacturing plants. However, beginning in October 1984, the trend changed, and since then the subsector has lost over 300 jobs due to layoffs and curtailed expansion plans.

APRIL SUMMARY

	Prel.	Revised		Change From	
	Apr. 1985	Mar. 1985	Apr. 1984	Mar. 1985	Apr. 1984
Civilian Labor Force	244,000	241,600	231,600	+ 2,400	+12,400
Employment	229,100	227,700	217,700	+ 1,400	+11,400
Unemployment	14,900	13,900	13,900	+ 1,000	+ 1,000
Rate	6.1%	5.8%	6.0%		



ALBUQUERQUE AREA (BERNALILLO COUNTY)

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)

(Prepared in cooperation with the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

	Prelim APR 1985	Revised MAR 1985	Revised APR 1984	Change From MAR 1985	Change From APR 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT 1/	215,700	213,700	205,600	+2,000	+10,100
MINING	200	200	300	0	- 100
CONSTRUCTION	16,400	15,900	14,600	500	1,800
MANUFACTURING	19,000	19,100	18,700	- 100	+ 300
Durable Goods	13,500	13,600	13,200	- 100	+ 300
Nondurable Goods	5,500	5,500	5,500	0	0
TRANSPORTATION and PUBLIC UTILITIES	12,200	12,100	12,100	+ 100	+ 100
Transportation	5,700	5,700	5,500	0	+ 200
Communication	4,000	3,900	4,200	+ 100	- 200
Electric, Gas and Sanitary Services	2,500	2,500	2,400	0	+ 100
WHOLESALE and RETAIL TRADE	54,100	53,500	51,500	+ 600	+ 2,600
Wholesale Trade	13,600	13,600	13,600	0	0
Durable Goods	8,800	8,800	8,800	0	0
Nondurable Goods	4,800	4,800	4,800	0	0
Retail Trade	40,500	39,900	37,900	+ 600	+ 2,600
General Merchandise Stores	3,400	3,500	3,800	- 100	- 400
Food Stores	4,700	4,600	4,100	+ 100	+ 600
Auto Dlrs and Service Stations	4,600	4,600	4,600	0	0
Eating and Drinking Places	15,900	15,400	14,400	+ 500	+ 1,500
Other Retail Trade	11,900	11,800	11,000	+ 100	+ 900
FINANCE, INSURANCE and REAL ESTATE	13,300	13,300	12,400	0	+ 900
Banking	3,300	3,300	3,100	0	+ 200
Ins Carriers, Agents and Brokers	3,600	3,600	3,500	0	+ 100
Other Finance, Ins. and Real Estate	6,400	6,400	5,800	0	+ 600
SERVICES	55,600	55,100	52,700	+ 500	+ 2,900
Hotels and Other Lodging Places	2,800	2,800	3,000	0	- 200
Health Services	12,800	12,800	12,200	0	+ 600
Social Services	2,700	2,700	2,600	0	+ 100
Membership Organizations	1,900	1,900	1,700	0	+ 200
Other Services	35,400	34,900	33,200	+ 500	+ 2,200
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	44,900	44,500	43,300	+ 400	+ 1,600
Federal Government	12,800	12,700	12,300	+ 100	+ 500
Total State & Local	32,100	31,800	31,000	+ 300	+ 1,100
State	13,200	13,000	12,300	+ 200	+ 900
Local	18,900	18,800	18,700	+ 100	+ 200

1/ *Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded.*

LAS CRUCES AREA (DONA ANA COUNTY) 1/

ESTIMATED NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT (JOBS)

(Prepared in cooperation with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

	Prelim APR 1985	Revised MAR 1985	Revised APR 1984	Change From MAR 1985	Change From APR 1984
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	37,250	36,300	35,750	+350	+1,500
MINING 2/	0	0	0	0	0
CONSTRUCTION	2,500	2,500	2,500	0	0
MANUFACTURING	3,300	3,400	3,450	-100	- 150
Durable Goods	1,400	1,400	1,450	0	- 50
Nondurable Goods	1,900	2,000	2,000	-100	- 100
TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC UTILITIES	1,400	1,450	1,350	- 50	+ 50
Transportation	600	650	550	- 50	+ 50
Comm, Elec, Gas & San Service	800	800	800	0	0
WHOLESALE & RETAIL TRADE	7,550	7,500	6,950	+ 50	+ 600
Wholesale Trade	850	850	850	0	0
Retail Trade	6,700	6,650	6,100	+ 50	+ 600
General Merchandise Stores	700	700	750	0	- 50
Food Stores	950	950	900	0	+ 50
Auto Dlrs & Serv Stations	850	850	800	0	+ 50
Eating & Drinking Places	2,650	2,600	2,300	+ 50	+ 350
Other Retail Trade	1,550	1,550	1,350	0	+ 200
FINANCE, INSURANCE & REAL ESTATE	1,500	1,500	1,400	0	+ 100
SERVICES	5,100	4,950	4,800	+150	+ 300
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	600	550	600	+ 50	0
Business Services	800	800	700	0	+ 100
Health Services	1,150	1,100	1,000	+ 50	+ 150
Social Services	350	300	300	+ 50	+ 50
Other Services	2,200	2,200	2,200	0	0
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	15,300	15,600	15,300	+300	+ 600
Federal Government	4,700	4,600	4,500	+100	+ 200
Total State & Local	11,200	11,000	10,800	+200	+ 400
State	6,200	6,000	6,000	+200	+ 200
Local	5,000	5,000	4,800	0	+ 200

1/ In accordance with the CES Manual, those published cells with less than 2,000 employment are rounded to fifty. Those published cells with more than 2,000 employment are rounded to hundreds.

2/ The employment for the Las Cruces MSA is rounded to fifty. Because employment in this industry is below 25, it appears as zero.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS ESTIMATES

HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION, CONSTRUCTION AND NONSUPERVISORY EMPLOYEES

	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	APR 1985	MAR 1985	APR 1984	APR 1985	MAR 1985	APR 1984	APR 1985	MAR 1985	APR 1984
NEW MEXICO									
MINING	$510.18	$496.01	$478.84	42.8	41.3	42.3	$11.32	$12.01	$11.32
CONSTRUCTION	397.12	359.14	387.55	36.5	35.7	36.7	10.88	10.06	10.56
MANUFACTURING	319.38	306.05	478.34	39.7	38.4	42.3	8.06	7.37	11.32
Durable Goods	335.36	322.70	311.24	40.6	38.6	39.1	8.26	8.36	7.96
Nondurable Gds	277.89	269.35	281.69	37.3	37.3	38.9	7.45	7.12	7.26
COMM and UTIL	505.25	477.12	420.43	47.8	42.0	40.7	10.57	11.36	10.33
TRADE*	268.42	263.41	268.03	35.6	35.5	35.5	7.54	7.42	7.55
BANKING	212.08	207.48	209.97	38.7	38.0	39.1	5.48	5.46	5.37
ALBUQUERQUE									
MANUFACTURING	$319.93	$307.47	$294.88	39.4	38.1	38.8	$ 8.12	$ 8.07	$ 7.60

* Excludes Eating and Drinking Places

Note: Estimates include all full-time and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period which included the 12th day of the month. Self-employed, family workers, household workers and members of the Armed Forces are excluded. The average earnings are "gross" reflecting not only changes in basic hourly and incentive wage rates, but also such factors as premium pay for overtime and shift differentials. The work week information relates to the average hours for which pay was received, and is different from standard or scheduled hours due to absenteeism, labor turnover, part-time work, overtime work, etc.

NEW MEXICO MINING EMPLOYMENT

Mining employment in New Mexico was one of sporadic growth until 1972 (see Graph below). Between 1972 and 1981, mining employment increased by 92.6 percent, reaching its all time high level in June 1981 with 32,100 jobs. During this period, oil & gas extraction added 6,300 jobs (+90%), metal mining increased by 3,700 jobs (+64.9%), and coal & nonmetallic mining added 700 jobs (+20%).

Unfortunately, this period of long-term growth was followed by two year's of substantial employment losses. In 1982 and 1983 mining jobs declined by 32.2 percent. The 25.2 percent decline in 1983 is the largest yearly decrease in employment since New Mexico mining data has been estimated, beginning in 1939.

Further analysis is developed specifically from a comparison of June 1981, the month of highest employment, and September 1984, the latest state subarea and subsector data available.

New Mexico lost about 10,600 mining jobs between 1981 and 1984. The largest decline was in the uranium ores subsector (-4,311), followed by the combined subsectors of the oil & gas industry (-3,154), (see Table 1).

Eight counties contain almost all of the mining employment in New Mexico (see Table 2). The shift in area percentage distribution of statewide mining employment which occurred between 1981 and 1984 was almost totally the result of the especially large declines in the uranium and copper areas. Only one county, Taos, increased mining employment over the period. This was mainly due to Molycorp phasing out open pit mining operations and increasing employment to construct and operate an underground molybdenum mine.

According to more recent statewide mining estimates, employment increased over the last four months of 1984, adding about 500 jobs. However, losses in oil & gas extraction, coal, and metal mining through the first quarter of 1985 reduced mining employment by about 1,400 jobs. A small increase in April places mining employment at nearly 800 jobs below the September 1984 level.

MINING EMPLOYMENT

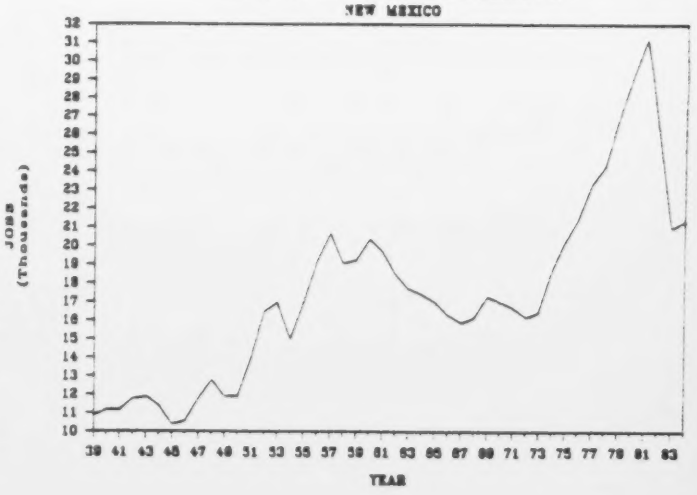


TABLE 1 - MINING SUBSECTOR EMPLOYMENT

SUBSECTOR	EMPLOYMENT JUN 1981	SEP 1984	CHANGE	% CHANGE
Total Mining	32,084	21,442	(10,642)	-33.2%
Metal Mining	9,869	3,725	(6,144)	-62.3%
Copper Ores	2,966	1,396	(1,570)	-52.9%
Uranium Ores	5,451	1,140	(4,311)	-79.1%
Metal Mining Services	745	160	(585)	-78.5%
Other Metals	707	1,029	322	45.5%
Coal & Nonmetallic Mining	5,634	4,290	(1,344)	-23.9%
Bituminous Coal & Lignite	1,653	1,441	(212)	-12.8%
Bitum. & Lig. Mng. Services	358	441	83	23.2%
Stone, Sand, & Gravel	253	181	(72)	-28.5%
Potash, Soda, & Borate Minerals	3,090	2,038	(1,052)	-34.0%
Misc. Nonmetallic Minerals NEC 1/	242	163	(79)	-32.6%
Other Nonmetallic	38	26	(12)	-31.6%
Oil & Gas Extraction	16,581	13,427	(3,154)	-19.0%
Crude Petroleum & Natural Gas	3,485	3,478	(7)	-0.2%
Drilling Oil & Gas Wells	4,042	2,767	(1,275)	-31.5%
Oil & Gas Exploration Services	294	263	(31)	-10.5%
Oil & Gas Field Services NEC 1/	8,760	6,919	(1,841)	-21.0%

1/ NEC - Not Elsewhere Classified

TABLE 2
MINING EMPLOYMENT
COUNTY DISTRIBUTION

COUNTY	JUN. 1981	COUNTY	SEP. 1984
Lea	27.9%	Lea	34.4%
San Juan	16.3%	San Juan	18.3%
Eddy	15.1%	Eddy	18.0%
McKinley	11.7%	Grant	6.7%
Grant	9.4%	McKinley	6.5%
Cibola/Val.	8.9%	Taos	4.8%
Chaves	2.9%	Chaves	3.9%
Taos	2.1%	Cibola/Val.	1.8%
Colfax	1.7%	Colfax	1.7%
Other	4.0%	Other	3.9%
Total	100.0%	Total	100.0%

AREA ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

ALBUQUERQUE AREA: In coming months, three new hotels and a major expansion at the midtown Holiday Inn will add 500 more rooms to the 6,000 hotel rooms now existing in Albuquerque. The Continental Inn, a 155-room hotel, opened in Mid-May. The La Quinta Motor Inn will open its third motel in Albuquerque in September with 130-rooms. The Ramada Inn will open its second motel in mid-summer, with 150 rooms. St. Joseph Hospital is scheduled to break ground in September on a $2.5 million cancer center addition. The center will be built on the west side of the downtown hospital. Ground has been broken on the $2.5 million, 59-unit Candlewood Village apartment complex near Candelaria and Chelwood Blvd. NE. The Rocketdyne Division of Rockwell International has been awarded a five-year contract worth about $17 million. The contract calls for Rocketdyne to provide laser and optical support services to the Air Force Weapons Laboratory at Kirtland AFB. During Fiscal 1984 the Kirtland Air Force Base Contracting Center awarded about $61 million in contracts to small businesses nationwide. The center awarded about $42 million to firms in Bernalillo County. Westland Development Co., Inc. plans to build a five-story, 50,000-square-foot office building near Unser Boulevard and Interstate 40. The $5 million, mid-rise project is the first phase of a planned 210,000-square-foot office complex. RCI Enterprises, the vocational division of the Rehabilitation Center, is a private, non-profit organization which currently provides jobs and training for 135 mentally and physically disabled persons in the Albuquerque area. RCI does a variety of work, including electronic assembly and inspection, on both a temporary and regular basis.

ALAMOGORDO/RUIDOSO AREA: The First National Bank in Alamogordo will undergo $2.5 million worth of remodeling and additions beginning this August. Scott Air, Inc. president Mr. Harold Scott was awarded the New Mexico Businessman of the Year Award by the Small Business Administration. Scott Air employs approximately 200 workers manufacturing various refrigeration and electrical devices, and the company is an active user of the Job Training Partnership and Targeted Jobs Tax Credit programs. Ruidoso Downs Race Track opened its 1985 horse racing schedule on May 17, signalling the start of Ruidoso's summer tourist season.

CLOVIS/PORTALES AREA: Construction activity in Curry and Roosevelt Counties is described as very robust by local officials. Work is continuing on Energy Fuels Development Corporation's $34 million ethanol production plant near Portales and the 322,000-square-foot North Plains Mall in Clovis, and a significant amount of residential construction is underway. R.L. Furrow Construction was issued a permit in April for construction of a new 67,500-square-foot Wal-Mart store in the North Plains Mall.

CARLSBAD/ARTESIA AREA: Approximately 90 workers at AMAX Chemical Company's potash mine are scheduled to be permanently laid off prior to the mine's annual three week maintenance shutdown beginning June 10. The other area potash mines, Potash Company of America, Potash Producers Inc., and International Minerals and Chemicals Corporation, also are planning summer shutdowns of two to three weeks duration. Monterey Construction is now employing about 125 workers on the Brantley Dam project, located on the Pecos River between Artesia and Carlsbad. The Waste Isolation Pilot Project is currently employing about 400 persons.

ESPANOLA AREA: Avery Structures, Inc. of Buena Vista, Colorado has been awarded a contract of about $577,000 for the second phase of the Velarde Acequia project. Ground was broken in April on the new $546,000 State Police Espanola District Headquarters. The project is scheduled for completion by November 1.

FARMINGTON AREA: The Navajo Tribe has approved the expenditure of $3.6 million from its coal revenues to fund a program to provide about 1,000 jobs. The program will allow each of the 109 certified tribal chapters to hire 10 people for 10 months. San Juan Downs Race Track opened its 150-day racing season in early May. Approximately 500 people are employed by the race track and in other associated jobs.

GALLUP/GRANTS AREA: Ground was broken in early May for the $638,000 Grants Mining Museum. Taylor Construction of Albuquerque is the project contractor. The Pittsburg and Midway Coal Mining Company's Southwest Division office in Gallup is expected to close in a "matter of months", according to a company spokesman. About 29 employees will be affected by the closure. The Grants Station, a new restaurant, will open in the building that formerly housed Hobo Joe's Restaurant. The family-style restaurant will employ about 40 people and is expected to open in early June.

LAS CRUCES AREA: Work has started on Healthcare Systems of America's $5 million psychiatric care center, Valley View Hospital, in Las Cruces. The 40,000-square-foot facility will contain 85 beds and have various support buildings on a 10-acre site. When open in early 1986, the hospital will employ a 55-member staff. A $1 million motel is scheduled to be built in T or C, by Hot Springs Ventures, a general partnership headed by three Las Cruces businessmen. Construction on the new motel, to be named Hot Springs Motor Inn, should begin by late summer. Most of the area's seasonal farm workers were being used for the spring lettuce harvest, weeding of onions, cotton, and chile, and harvest of spinach and alfalfa. Micro Switch Inc. laid off 25 workers in May, making this the third layoff at the computer component plant this year. Micro Switch previously laid off 18 workers in January and another 40 employees in March, all due to reduced demand for computer peripheral products.

RATON AREA: Eric Scientific, a subsidiary of Sylron Corporation, will close its Raton microscopic slide manufacturing plant in July. The closing of the Raton factory, which was started in 1976, is the result of cost containment measures in the medical industry, high transportation costs, and foreign competition.

ROSWELL AREA: Work will begin this September on a $2.5 million headquarters building in Roswell for Southwestern Public Service Company. Transportation Manufacturing Corporation (TMC) officials have announced that Greyhound Lines has placed an $18 million order with the firm for delivery of 100 buses late this year.

SANTA FE AREA: The Santa Fe City Council has approved Castillo Corporation's request to annex 605 acres north of the city for a luxury resort. The resort will include a golf course, a hotel designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, and about 300 homes. The development is expected to provide about 430 jobs. Work is continuing on the 650,000-square-foot Villa Linda Mall on Cerrillos and Rodeo Rds. The new mall will open on July 31 with large Mervyn's and Dillard's department stores as anchors. J.C. Penney will open its store in the mall in mid-1986. Employment at Villa Linda should reach 600 by the end of this year, according to officials of its developer, The Herring Group.

SILVER CITY AREA: Kennecott Corp's Chino Mines Division laid off 55 workers in early May as part of a cost cutting drive to return Chino to profitability despite low copper prices. Chino officials said some additional staff reductions will occur within the next two months.

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U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
April 1985

CPI-U - 320.1
CPI-W - 316.7

(Base Year 1967 = 100)

CPI-U - All Urban Consumers
CPI-W - Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers

NEW MEXICO LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES 1/

	PRELIMINARY APRIL 1985				REVISED MARCH 1985				REVISED APRIL 1984			
	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate	Labor Force	Empl.	Unemp.	Rate
STATEWIDE	641,771	589,131	52,640	8.2%	637,212	587,256	49,956	7.8%	621,068	574,317	46,751	7.5%
ALBUQUERQUE MSA 2/	244,058	229,113	14,945	6.1%	241,652	227,726	13,926	5.8%	231,589	217,728	13,861	6.0%
LAS CRUCES MSA 3/	44,602	40,866	3,736	8.4%	43,946	40,580	3,366	7.7%	42,361	39,382	2,979	7.0%
Catron	953	745	208	21.8%	918	691	227	24.7%	904	749	155	17.1%
Chaves	24,964	23,272	1,692	6.8%	24,648	23,103	1,545	6.3%	24,492	22,999	1,493	6.1%
Cibola	11,394	9,144	2,250	19.7%	11,177	9,125	2,052	18.4%	10,648	9,293	1,355	12.7%
Colfax	6,729	5,974	755	11.2%	6,600	5,883	717	10.9%	6,663	5,893	770	11.6%
Curry	16,082	14,916	1,166	7.3%	15,902	14,865	1,037	6.5%	15,588	14,619	969	6.2%
De Baca	958	868	90	9.4%	958	872	86	9.0%	934	866	68	7.3%
Eddy	23,202	21,056	2,146	9.2%	23,334	21,357	1,977	8.5%	23,181	20,958	2,223	9.6%
Grant	10,129	8,758	1,371	13.5%	10,199	8,865	1,334	13.1%	10,193	9,086	1,107	10.9%
Guadalupe	1,551	1,343	208	13.4%	1,447	1,275	172	11.9%	1,546	1,434	112	7.2%
Harding	554	527	27	4.9%	546	513	33	6.0%	551	524	27	4.9%
Hidalgo	2,558	2,387	171	6.7%	2,569	2,407	162	6.3%	2,537	2,383	154	6.1%
Lea	31,047	29,542	1,505	4.8%	31,102	29,589	1,513	4.9%	30,857	29,362	1,495	4.8%
Lincoln	7,986	7,567	419	5.2%	7,931	7,513	418	5.3%	7,816	7,494	322	4.1%
Los Alamos	11,895	11,706	189	1.6%	11,984	11,731	253	2.1%	11,411	11,242	169	1.5%
Luna	5,353	4,504	849	15.9%	5,383	4,592	791	14.7%	5,110	4,500	610	11.9%
McKinley	16,828	14,869	1,959	11.6%	16,796	14,889	1,907	11.4%	17,209	15,417	1,792	10.4%
Mora	1,126	729	397	35.3%	1,126	722	404	35.9%	1,073	741	332	30.9%
Otero	15,616	14,397	1,219	7.8%	15,564	14,300	1,264	8.1%	15,331	14,262	1,069	7.0%
Quay	5,361	4,938	423	7.9%	5,246	4,819	427	8.1%	5,365	4,946	419	7.8%
Rio Arriba	12,435	9,919	2,516	20.2%	12,389	9,884	2,505	20.2%	12,204	9,935	2,269	18.6%
Roosevelt	8,070	7,725	345	4.3%	8,143	7,786	357	4.4%	7,932	7,631	301	3.8%
Sandoval	14,545	13,073	1,472	10.1%	14,282	12,865	1,417	9.9%	13,389	12,551	838	6.3%
San Juan	36,121	31,668	4,453	12.3%	35,887	31,451	4,436	12.4%	36,425	31,744	4,681	12.9%
San Miguel	9,441	8,168	1,273	13.5%	9,441	8,177	1,264	13.4%	9,029	7,937	1,092	12.1%
Santa Fe	42,708	40,253	2,455	5.7%	42,702	40,310	2,392	5.6%	41,983	39,820	2,163	5.2%
Sierra	2,670	2,493	177	6.6%	2,648	2,453	195	7.4%	2,653	2,539	114	4.3%
Socorro	4,947	4,595	352	7.1%	4,954	4,587	367	7.4%	4,985	4,549	436	8.7%
Taos	11,379	9,124	2,255	19.8%	11,450	9,538	1,912	16.7%	10,951	8,872	2,079	19.0%
Torrance	2,384	2,111	273	11.5%	2,345	2,060	285	12.2%	2,200	2,021	179	8.1%
Union	2,550	2,369	181	7.1%	2,493	2,337	156	6.3%	2,401	2,259	142	5.9%
Valencia	11,575	10,412	1,163	10.0%	11,450	10,391	1,059	9.2%	11,557	10,581	976	8.4%

1/ All estimates are made in strict accordance with methodology provided by the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

2/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Bernalillo County

3/ Metropolitan Statistical Area - Dona Ana County

New Mexico Employment Security Department
Economic Research and Analysis (CC 6097)
P.O. Box 1928
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87103

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